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Dear Colleague,

the high level segment of the 76th session of the United Nation General Assembly will provide the Uniting for Consensus Group (UfC) and observer Countries with a useful opportunity for an updated assessment of the Security Council reform process.

While the pandemic emergency has severely affected the overall activity of the UN and also the Inter-Governmental Negotiations (IGN), the past session confirmed more than ever not only the membership's widely shared aspirations for concrete progress in the reform, but also the existence of diverging views on some key issues.

Despite all these difficulties, UfC once again proved to be a very cohesive and determined Group, able to effectively defend and promote its positions. The rollover decision on June 22nd, adopted after complex and tense negotiations, concluded the IGN on a positive note. Nevertheless, we should beware of the challenges that the incoming IGN might put across our path. We will have to cope with the growing dissatisfaction expressed by some Member States, which might be lured by alternative approaches to the Security Council reform process, including the beginning of "Text-Based-Negotiations" (TBN). We should also continue to foster a constructive dialogue with other significant negotiating groups, such as the African and the Arab ones.

Thus, taking into consideration new and old challenges, UfC countries need to have a well-defined strategy for the incoming negotiations. While identifying and agreeing on the next steps we have to undertake as UfC, we shall focus on further outreach activities to carry out in the near future to promote our reform model.

I am therefore pleased to invite you to the traditional UfC meeting which this year will place through a teleconference on September 23rd, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. (EDT).

Looking forward to meeting you soon, I send you my best regards.

Luigi Di Maio